

Wednesday, June 4, 2008

House Meets At...	Votes Predicted At...
10:00 a.m. For Legislative Business	Last Vote: 5:00-6:00 p.m.
Fifteen "One-minutes" Per Side	

Any anticipated Member absences for votes this week should be reported to the Office of the Majority Whip at 226-3210.

Floor Schedule and Procedure

- **Suspension Bills:** Today, the House will consider several bills on the Suspension calendar. Bills considered on the Suspension calendar are debatable for 40 minutes; may not be amended; and require a two-thirds vote for passage. If a recorded vote is requested, it will be postponed.
 - 1) H.Con.Res. 311** - Authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for the Greater Washington Soap Box Derby (Rep. Hoyer – Transportation and Infrastructure)
 - 2) H.Con.Res. 335** - Authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for a celebration of the 100th anniversary of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated (Rep. Watson - Transportation and Infrastructure)
 - 3) H.R. 3712** - The James M. Ashley & Thomas W.L. Ashley United States Courthouse (Rep. Kaptur - Transportation and Infrastructure)
 - 4) H.R. 5599** -The Thomas Jefferson Census Bureau Headquarters Building (Rep. Maloney Transportation and Infrastructure)
 - 5) H.R. 1343** - Health Centers Renewal Act of 2007 (Rep. Gene Green (TX) – Energy and Commerce)
 - 6) H.R. 5669** - Poison Center Support, Enhancement, and Awareness Act of 2008 (Rep. Towns – Energy and Commerce)
 - 7) H.R. 5940** - National Nanotechnology Initiative Amendments Act of 2008 (Rep. Gordon - Science and Technology)
 - 8) H.Con.Res. 366** - Expressing the sense of Congress that increasing American capabilities in science, mathematics, and technology education should be a national priority (Rep. Eddie Bernice Johnson – Science and Technology)
 - 9) H.Res. 1180** - Recognizing the efforts and contributions of outstanding women scientists, technologists, engineers, and mathematicians in the United States and around the world (Rep. Reichert - Science and Technology)

10) H.R. 5893 - Library of Congress Sound Recording and Film Preservation Programs Reauthorization Act of 2008 (Rep. Brady (PA) – House Administration)

11) H.R. 5972 - United States Capitol Police Administrative Technical Corrections Act of 2008 (Rep. Brady (PA) – House Administration)

12) H.R. 3058 - Public Land Communities Transition Act of 2007 (Rep. DeFazio – Natural Resources)

- **H. Res. 1234–Rule providing for consideration of H.R. 3021, the 21st Century Green High-Performing Public School Facilities Act (Rep. Sutton-Rules):** The structured rule provides one hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the Chairman and Ranking Minority Member of the Committee on Education and Labor. The rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions. Debate on the rule will be managed by Rep. Sutton, and consideration will proceed as follows:
 - One hour of debate on the rule.
 - Possible vote on a Democratic Motion ordering the previous question. **Democrats are urged to vote yes.**
 - Vote on adoption of the rule. **Democrats are urged to vote yes.**
- **H.R. 3021, the 21st Century Green High-Performing Public School Facilities Act (Rep. Chandler-Education and Labor):** Pursuant to the rule, debate on the bill will be managed by Education and Labor Committee Chair Rep. George Miller, or his designee, and will proceed as follows:
 - One hour of debate on the bill.
 - Debate and votes on amendments to the bill.
 - Possible debate and vote on a Republican Motion to Recommit the bill.
 - Vote on passage of the bill.

Bill Summary and Key Issues

H.R. 3021 - 21ST CENTURY GREEN HIGH-PERFORMING PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITIES ACT *(Rep. Chandler – Education and Labor)*

Improving Education, Strengthening the Economy, Fighting Global Warming

School buildings should be safe and healthy learning environments for children. But according to recent estimates, America's schools are hundreds of billions of dollars short of the funding needed to bring them up to good condition. Meanwhile, research shows a correlation between school facility quality and student achievement. Despite the need to modernize school buildings, since 2001 the federal government has provided almost no direct aid to help states and schools pay for school construction and repair. Modernizing school buildings would also create jobs in the construction industry, one of the industries hit hardest by the recent economic downturn. And by modernizing school buildings to make them more energy efficient and more reliant on renewable sources of energy, modernized school buildings can help reduce the emissions that contribute to global warming.

The 21st Century High-Performing Public Schools Facilities Act (H.R. 3021) would:

Provide schools with access to funding for modernization, renovation and repair projects

- Authorizes \$6.4 billion for school construction projects for fiscal year 2009, and ensures that school districts will quickly receive funds for school modernization, renovation, and repairs that improve the teaching and learning climate, health and safety, and energy efficiency.
- Allocates the same percentage of funds to states and school districts that they receive under Part A of Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, except that it guarantees each such district a minimum of \$5,000.

Encourage energy efficiency and the use of renewable resources in schools

- Requires the majority of funds (90 percent by 2013) be used for projects that meet green building standards.
- Allows states to reserve one percent of funds to administer the program and to develop a plan to create a statewide database of schools' facilities, modernization and repair needs, energy uses, carbon footprints, and schools' energy efficiency quality plans.
- Requires school districts to publicly report the educational, energy and environmental benefits of projects, how they comply with the green building requirements, and the percentage of funds used for projects at low-income and rural schools.
- Requires the Secretary of Education, in consultation with the Secretary of Energy and the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, to create a database of the best practices in school construction and to provide technical assistance to states and school districts regarding best practices.

Provide additional aid to Gulf Coast schools still recovering from Hurricanes Katrina and Rita

- Authorizes separate funds – half a billion dollars over five years – for public schools that were damaged by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

Ensure fair wages and benefits for workers by applying Davis-Bacon protections to all grants for school modernization, renovation, and repair projects

Anticipated Amendments to H.R. 3021

1. **Miller, George (CA):** In addition to making various technical changes, the amendment clarifies or adds certain allowable uses of funds, clarifies the Act's green building requirements, and adds certain reporting requirements. (10 minutes)
2. **Ehlers (MI):** Would establish a moratorium on using federal funds to purchase carbon offsets with the funding authorized in the bill. (10 minutes)
3. **Shea-Porter (NH)/ Welch (VT)/Arcuri (NY)/Hodes (NH):** Would allow funding authorized by the bill to be used for renewable energy generation and heating systems in schools. (30 minutes)
4. **Davis, Tom (VA):** Would allow for priority consideration to science and

technology schools once the funds reach their local educational agencies. (10 minutes)

5. Stupak (MI)/Visclosky (IN): Would require a local educational agency to use American steel and iron for modernization, renovation, or repair projects at a public school facility. Includes waivers if iron and steel are not produced in the U.S. in sufficient and reasonably available quantities and if iron and steel produced in the U.S. will increase the cost of the overall project by more than 25 percent. (10 minutes)

6. Brady, Kevin (TX): Would include Texas in Title II of the bill. (10 minutes)

7. Matheson (UT): Provides that schools and local educational agencies receiving grants under this bill shall report, if they installed flooring, whether it was 1) low- or no-VOC (Volatile Organic Compounds) flooring, 2) made from sustainable materials, and 3) cost effective. (10 minutes)

8. Reichert (WA): Provides that local education agencies may use a grant for modernization, renovation, or repair of public school facilities to reduce class size. (10 minutes)

Quote of the Day

America is not anything if it consists of each of us. It is something only if it consists of all of us. -Woodrow Wilson

The Office of the House Majority Whip | H-329 The Capitol |
Washington, DC 20515 | p. (202)226-3210 | f. (202)226-1115